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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM

December 23, 1959

TO: The Secretary

THROUGH: S/S

M - Mr. Merchant

FROM: EUR - Foy D. Kohler

SUBJECT: Summit Meeting Preparations: Your Meeting with the French,
British, and German Ambassadors During the Week of December 28

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At the meeting with the ambassadors it is suggested that you outline
procedural proposals along the following lines:

1. Disarmament Preparations

The substantive preparations for disarmament were committed
to a special preparatory group by virtue of the decisions reached by the
five foreign ministers at Paris December 20. This involves a meeting
between you (or your representative) and the ambassadors or specially
designated representatives of Canada, France, Italy, and the U.K. on
January 18 to discuss in general terms the guide lines to be followed by
the experts of the five nations who are to convene at Washington on
January 25.

2. Summit Preparations Steering Group

The Steering Group would be composed of the ambassadors of
France, Germany, the U.K., and yourself. It would be expected that this
group would meet only rarely to discuss broad policy considerations connected

with the

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with the preparatory work and to approve the final reports of the working groups devoted to specific subjects.

3. Summit Preparations Coordinating Group

This would be composed of the deputy chiefs of mission of the three other countries (i.e., Lebel, France; Krapf, Germany; and Hood, U.K.) and myself. This group would be charged with the active supervision and coordination of the work of the specialized working groups and could be expected to meet fairly frequently to this end.

4. Summit Preparations Working Groups

a. Disarmament. This group would be concerned with the formulation of allied policy regarding disarmament as it applied to the East-West summit and therefore would not be expected to function until shortly before the summit itself and in the light of developments in the ten-nation disarmament committee deliberations. At that time it would be expected that Mr. Farley, S/AE, or his representative would be the U.S. member of the group.

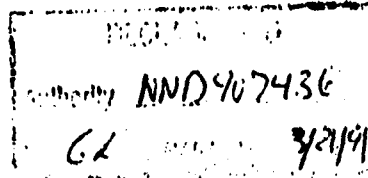
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b. Germany Including Berlin. We would expect this group to begin its work during the second half of January and would much prefer (and it seems to have been generally agreed) that its location be Washington. Mr. Hillenbrand, GER, would be the U.S. member of this group and would be responsible for Departmental preparations.

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c. East-West Relations. In view of Mr. Bohlen's rank and likely commitments connected with U.S.-U.S.S.R. lend-lease negotiations, it does not seem appropriate to associate him directly with a working group's activities. He would, of course, be kept fully informed and thoroughly consulted as the work progressed. We would be pleased to have the working group located at Washington but would be willing to have it either at Paris or London if this seems more suitable to the others. Mr. Richard H. Davis, EUR, would head the Departmental Working Group and, in the event that Washington is selected for the Quadripartite consultations, would be the U.S. member of the Quadripartite Working Group. In the event Paris or London were chosen, we would have to consider who should be the U.S. member (preferably drawn, if possible, from the embassy staff).

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d. Aid to Underdeveloped Countries. Since this is a French item, it may be that the French would prefer Paris as the site of the work of this group. We would be prepared to have it at Washington, in which

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case Mr. Ivan White, EUR, would be the U.S. representative. He would head the Departmental Working Group studying the subject, working in close coordination with E.

As a first step toward preparation, we are undertaking a study of the records of discussions at Paris, both in relation to the NATO and the Western Summit Meetings, to extract those points on which agreement seems to have been clearly reached and which could constitute directives for the preparatory work. Departmental representatives will be in touch informally with the embassies in the hope of having an unofficially agreed set of directives prior to the beginning of the working groups' activities. These might be the subject of a first meeting of the Coordinating Group about mid-January.

Coordination of the Departmental Working Groups' activities and working papers will be the responsibility of Mr. McSweeney, SOV, acting for me. An initial project which will be undertaken by SOV will be close scrutiny of the working group and consultative group papers prepared for the Western Summit to determine which are still valid for use in the forthcoming preparations.

EUR:SOV:JMC:McSweeney:amc

Handwritten initials

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